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8/16/77
WDP
P770131-2239
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL
SERVICE COMMITTEE

August 16, 1977

Patti Derian
Office of Human Rights and
Humanitarian Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

37
ACTION
is assigned to

D/HA

MR
Need resp
of some sort
in 5 days
Be sure it
gets logged
goes thru
P-1

Dear Ms. Derian:

I call your attention to the tragic case of Alcira Patricia Camusso de Rodriguez, a twenty year old Argentine woman who is being held without charge or trial in Argentina. There is no evidence that she has ever used or advocated violence, and there is no justification for her imprisonment.

On February 24, 1977, Alcira Camusso, her husband Gabriel Rodriguez, and their eight month old child were arrested in their home. On February 25, 1977, the army returned Alcira's baby to the home of the husband's parents and informed the parents that their son was dead. Alcira Camusso has remained in detention, first in la seccional de Policia de la provincia de Buenos Aires de Ramos Mejia, and later at Villa Devoto.

This case is particularly urgent because it has been learned that Alcira Camusso is nearly six months pregnant. The Argentine government refuses to transport women over six months pregnant because of the potential danger involved, so it is vital that Alcira Camusso be released at once. Because of her condition, Amnesty International has designated her an "urgent action" prisoner of conscience.

I ask you to use the channels available to you to urge the Argentine authorities to release Alcira Camusso before she delivers her child, and that she be allowed to accept the government of Columbia's offer of a visa so that she may join her parents who await her there.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Patricia Schroeder
Congresswoman

PS/nd

CC: Francesca Jossun

ARGENTINA PROJECT (570000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/OPS/PS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Discontinue

Date Declassify on